



Welcome to your

Veteran Employment Through Technology Education Courses (VET TEC) Employer Consortium

Students Onboarding Kit



Congratulations!

Welcome from Charmain Bogue, Executive Director!

Congratulations on taking the next step in starting or advancing your career in the high-technology industry by participating in the VET TEC program. VA is excited to offer the VET TEC program and to help you pursue opportunities in the high-technology industry where you can also utilize the training and experience gained during your time in service.



Since launching in March 2019, thousands of students have participated in the VET TEC program, with over 90% of participating students completing their program and going on to find meaningful employment within their field of study.

To build on the success of the VET TEC program, VA formed the VET TEC Employer Consortium as an opportunity for students to find meaningful employment upon completion of their VET TEC training program. The collaboration between Training Providers, Employers and VA within the VET TEC Employer Consortium creates a key space for you to make connections, attend events hosted by VA and employer-partners, and be primed for success upon completion of your program.

As the Executive Director for Education Service at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, I am committed to making a difference with Veterans and providing extraordinary service to the 1 million beneficiaries who enroll in VA's education programs each year. The VET TEC program and Employer Consortium reflect that commitment and complement our mission to help enroll Veterans in high-technology programs that develop in-demand skills leading to meaningful employment as fast as possible; while identifying and benchmarking pathways that help Veterans secure employment in high-demand fields.

Please stay in touch with our team via [Facebook](#) and stay tuned to our [VET TEC Webpage](#) for updates.

Thank you for your service and best of luck with your training program!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charmain Bogue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Requirements of our Students

VA is committed to your success in finding employment after you complete the VET TEC training program. In support of this commitment, VA created the VET TEC Employer Consortium, bringing together the best of industry and high-tech talent in one space.

You can interact with the VET TEC Employer Consortium by attending VA and employer-partner hosted events, where you will have the opportunity to connect with employers and VA, get the latest VET TEC updates and guidance, and learn about upcoming opportunities.

As part of your participation in the VET TEC program you are required to actively participate in the VET TEC Employer Consortium. Here are the steps needed to successfully onboard:

Onboarding Checklist:

- ☐ Create a [LinkedIn](#) profile or if you already have a profile, update your profile.
- ☐ Utilize the [Resume Engine](#) to create a resume or upload an existing resume.
- ☐ Register for your first Employer Consortium event.
- ☐ Expect calls periodically from VA upon completion of your program to assist you with any resources needed to find meaningful employment.

Keys to Success:

Stay informed and regularly participate in Employer Consortium events hosted by VA and employer-partners. Add time to follow up with LinkedIn connections, set up informational interviews, and schedule events in your planner!



Employer Partners

The companies below have partnered with VA to provide you a variety of opportunities including but not limited to employment, mentoring, networking, job previews, and resume assistance.

Follow our VET TEC employer-partners to make connections at the start of your training program. You can interact with them in during Employer Consortium events or through following their employer LinkedIn page.

- » **Walmart**
- » **Amazon**
- » **Accenture**
- » **Skillstorm**

- » **Electronic On-Ramp (EOR)**
- » **Oaklea Simpson Security (OSS)**
- » **VetsEZ**

- » **ERA Solutions**
- » **Blackbox**
- » **Windstream**

The Employer Consortium would not be possible without our employer partners and we know that you share VA's excitement and appreciation for their willingness to participate and commit to advancing your future!

Accessing the Resume Engine

Welcome to Resume Engine! This tool will allow you to build an online platform and allow VET TEC employers and other military-ready companies to more efficiently receive, sort, and review resumes. To get started, please complete the following steps:

- » Visit ResumeEngine.org and click the Sign-Up link in the upper right corner. Choose the Email option and create your account using the same e-mail address that you used when you applied online for VET TEC.
- » Go to your email inbox and click the link in the email to confirm your account. The link will take you to your Resume Engine account.
- » Once you've followed the link and logged in to your account, click on the account icon in the upper right corner and select "My Profile" from the drop-down menu. A profile creation wizard will pop up with fields that you should fill out.
- » Once complete, scroll to the bottom of the profile popup and select the button on the right that says "Save Profile and Upload Existing Resume."
- » Once you have uploaded your resume, you'll want to fill out a few additional sections to populate the fields on the profile card employers see before they open your resume, including your military honors, applicable clearances, and highlighted skills.

For additional information on the Resume Engine and search tips for VET TEC graduates, please visit the Hiring Our Heroes Resume Engine Checklist for VET TEC graduates [slick sheet](#).

Did you know?

VA's partnership with LinkedIn provides you the opportunity to receive one year of LinkedIn Premium Access for free. To enable LinkedIn Premium Access for your profile, click on the link in the email provided by the VET TEC Team. If you have not received the email, you may send an email to VETTECPartner@VA.gov to request the access code. In the email subject line input "LinkedIn Premium Access Request."

Register for Events

The VET TEC Employer Consortium provides opportunities to find meaningful employment upon completion of your program. To maximize your participation in the VET TEC Employer Consortium and overall VET TEC program, be sure to sign up for and attend VA events.

- » VA will periodically send emails with a link or form to register for events. Please click on the link or fill out the form.
- » You may also visit our [website](#) to RSVP for upcoming opportunities.
- » Upon receiving your registration, VA will send a calendar invitation with the details and login instructions for the event.

Each month, VA will be hosting a variety of events designed to assist you with finding meaningful employment. These events include:

- » **Lunch & Learn Sessions:** Informational sessions to learn about a variety of job searching topics
- » **Job Previews:** Additional information about specific roles in the technology industry and skill set required
- » **Day in the Life:** “Day in the Life” of an individual in a role in the technology industry and of the benefits and challenges to the work
- » **LinkedIn:** Specific information on leveraging a LinkedIn profile and translating military experience into civilian experience
- » **Panel Discussions:** Events with diverse panel members including employer partners, graduates and more



Important Links

Take time to bookmark these links for quick access to helpful information and resources. For additional questions, comments, or feedback, please contact our VET TEC Employer Consortium Team at VETTECPartner@VA.gov.

- » [**Resume Engine powered by Hiring our Heroes**](#): Resume dashboard where VET TEC students can submit their resume for employer review.
- » [**VET TEC Website for Students**](#): VA resource page for VET TEC, includes additional questions and information pertinent to students and training providers.
- » [**Building Your Future: Part One: A Guide to Choose Your Education Pathway**](#): This guide focuses on navigating education pathways and includes information on how to get started, choosing an education pathway, and accessing on-campus resources.
- » [**Building Your Future: Part Two: A Guide to Understanding Your Benefits**](#): This guide focuses on outlining and comparing VA education benefits.
- » [**Building Your Future: Part Three: A guide to Furthering Your Career**](#): This guide focuses on navigating education pathways that will lead to meaningful and fulfilling careers.
- » [**GI Bill Comparison Tool**](#): Learn more about education programs and compare benefits by school or training provider.
- » [**Meaningful Employment Form**](#): VET TEC Employment Certification Form that is completed when Meaningful Employment is found. Please be prepared to provide proof of meaningful employment in the form of an offer letter, pay stub, promotion offer, note from manager, or marketing material showing expansion in scope or level of services for Veteran owned businesses.

Have Questions or Need Help:

For General VET TEC Program questions, **unrelated** to the VET TEC Employer Consortium: call us at **888-442-4551**. We are here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET. If you have hearing loss, call **TTY: 711**. Email us at VETTECPartner@VA.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are questions you might have about the VET TEC Employer Consortium. For additional questions regarding the VET TEC program, please visit the VET TEC [click sheet](#) or the [VET TEC Student FAQ page](#).

What is the VET TEC Employer Consortium? Am I automatically a member after graduation?

VA formed the VET TEC Employer Consortium to connect students and VET TEC training providers with high-technology employers committed to hiring skilled high-tech Veteran talent. You will automatically become a member of the VET TEC Employer Consortium when you enroll in your VET TEC program.

Am I guaranteed employment if I participate in the VET TEC Employer Consortium?

Although you are not guaranteed employment, VA has created the VET TEC Employer Consortium to provide additional networking opportunities and resources to support VET TEC students in their pursuit of employment throughout the VET TEC program. Students should utilize these resources, in addition to resources provided by their training provider, to gain employment.

I have never written a resume, or my resume is really outdated, will the VET TEC Employer Consortium be able to help me?

Yes, there will be a variety of events hosted by VA and employer partners. You may also be connected to resources such as “how to” videos to help with resume, cover letters and other job search essentials.

What if I find an employer partner I want to work for and they are not responding to my messages, what do I do?

Please document the dates and ways you have been trying to connect with the employer-partner and send to your Training Provider point of contact. They will email VA and help address this situation.

What else do I need to do to prepare for the events?

It is important to check your internet bandwidth and make sure you are in a quiet setting where you can hear the presentation or speaker. If you are attending an event where you will be given the chance to speak, please test your audio and we encourage you to use headsets to decrease any feedback noise.